## Message Text

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**ACTION EB-11** 

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 DRC-01 /048 W ------ 062118

P R 140530Z AUG 74 FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2302

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, EAIR, AS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: USER CHARGES

**REF: STATE 171373** 

- 1. CONGEN HAS REPLIED TO PHILLIPS' LETTER INCLUDING ALL POINTS NOTED IN REFTEL. HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED PROBLEM WITH OFFICIALS IN BOTH INTERNATIONAL DIVISION AND POLICY AND LICENSING DIVISION.
- 2. HAVE RECEIVED VERBAL INFORMAL REPLY THAT ATG FINDS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD MEETINGS WEEK OF AUGUST 26. REASONS ADVANCED ARE INSUFFICIENT TIME TO OBTAIN CANBERRA FINANCIAL APPROVAL FOR THE TRAVEL.
- 3. SAME OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT ATG WOULD PREFER INFORMAL TALKS DURING FORTHCOMING ICAO MEETINGS. WHEN PRESSED AGREED THAT IF NECESSARY COULD HOLD FORMAL TALKS AFTER ICAO MEETING USING SAME DELEGATION. AT PRESENT NO NAME AVAILABE AS POTENTIAL DELEGATES.
- 4. COMMENT: ATG REMAINS VAGUE, AS IT HAS SINCE USER CHARGES PROBLEM FIRST RAISED, WHEN IT COMES TO SPECIFYING A TIME, PLACE OR CONTENT OF MEETING ON SUBJECT. DECISIONS AS SUCH HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT TO GET EVER SINCE SIR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DONALD ANDERSON RETIRED AND WAS ESSENTIALLY REPLACED

BY A STRONG CABINET MINISTER AND HIS PERSONALLY SELECTED ASSISTANT IN CANBERRA. THE LAS, UNEXPECTED ELECTION ALSO CREATED PROBLEMS, WHILE PRESENT RELUCTANCE MIGHT BE BASED ON A "WAIT AND SEE" APPROACH UNTIL THE NEW FEDERAL BUDGET, TO BE ANNOUNCED IN SEPTEMBER CLARIFIES THE SITUATION. MINISTER JONES HAS BEEN IN FACOR OF INCREASED CHARGES (SEE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES FROM "THE AUSTRALIAN" DATED JULY 15, POUCHED UNDER TRANSMITTAL SLIP DATED JULY 22; "THE ADVERTISER" DATED JULY 17, POUCHED UNDER TRANSMITTAL SLIP DATED JULY 25; AND "AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL REVIEW" DATED AUGUST 13, DESPATCHED BY INTERNATIONAL MAIL AUGUST 14).

5. UNLESS THERE IS DRASTIC REVISION IN PRESENT THINKING, ATG WILL NOT AGREE TO AUGUST 26 MEETINGS OR PERHAPS NOT EVEN TO ANYTHING OTHER THAN INFORMAL TALKS DURING THE ICAO MEETING. WILL FORWARD PHILLIPS' REPLY UPON RECEIPT.
BRAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, AIR FARES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MEETINGS

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